	March Institutes
Sessions	March 4-6, 2019
State Complaints & Dispute Resolution	Title: State Complaints & Dispute Resolution Speakers: Leigh Mobley, Teresa King, Julie Whetzel, Deborah Throm, Teresa Cestaro and Patti Cox. Description: Participants will engage in a review of the current issues most often found noncompliant in state complaint investigations. An analysis of the policies involved and how to avoid procedural pitfalls will guide the discussion. Participants will engage in a review of the current issues most often found noncompliant in state complaint investigations. An analysis of the policies involved and how to avoid procedural pitfalls will guide the discussion. Objectives: Participants will: 1. Receive an overview of 2018 dispute resolution data;
	 Be able to identify circumstances that trigger Child Find and the related requirements for responding to initial referrals and completing initial evaluations; Improve their stakeholders' ability to demonstrate Implementation of the IEP with data; Identify appropriate responses to requests for Independent Educational Evaluations; Anticipate and avoid common compliance issues often found through monitoring; and Have an opportunity to ask questions.
Evaluation & Eligibility	 Title: 2020 Vision: Evaluation and Identification of Specific Learning Disabilities within an Instructional Model (participants should attend both Part 2 and Part 3) Speakers: Lynne Loeser, Lynn Makor Description: These sessions will examine the criteria and data sources specific to SLD evaluation and eligibility within and instructional model to prepare LEAs for implementation. Objectives: Participants will be able to: 1. Identify and consider relevant existing data sources for evaluation within an instructional model 2. Identify additional evaluation data sources that might be needed to establish eligibility and inform the design and delivery of instruction and intervention 3. Organize and apply student data and other relevant information to align with required criteria for evaluation and eligibility decision.
Recruitment & Retention	Title: Recruitment and Retention Speaker: Program Improvement and Professional Development team Description: The current state of special education teacher availability in NC necessitates that there be creative thinking to provide supports for both recruitment and retention. This session will present hot topics identified by stakeholder from LEAs and IHEs. Objectives: Participants will be able to: 1. Understand the influences that lead to individuals choosing to become special educators. 2. Understand various effective practices to recruit and retain special educators
Alternate Achievement Standards	Title: Alternate Achievement Standards Speakers: Matthew Martinez and Molly McGahey Description: This session will review the current data and participation of students in Alternate Achievement and Alternate Academic Achievement Standards (AA-AAAS). The session will

	provide critical implementation elements that schools, and LEAs need to support students in AA-AAAS. Objectives: Participants will: 1. Analyze NCExtend 1 data for the state to determine if intent of ESSA being followed. 2. Become familiar with the new Justification forms 3. Discuss PLC strategies for the ECS teacher 4. Discuss instructional practices within the ECS classroom 5. Familiarize with Professional Development offered by DPI
NCSIP	Title: NC State Improvement Speakers: Program Improvement and Professional Development team Description: The North Carolina State Improvement Project partners believe in providing high quality professional development based in research and centered around effective implementation practices. Currently, 70 LEAs and 8 Institutes of Higher Education across the state comprise the partnerships involved in this work. This session will share 1) the benefits of becoming a partner in this engaging project, and 2) the application process to join the NC State Improvement Project as a Network Site. Objectives: Participants will: 1. Understand the teaming structure needed to apply to be a Network Site 2. Understand the goals and expectations of Network Sites 3. Understand the process of applying to be a Network Site
Contracts	Title: Understanding Contracts Speakers: Amy Campbell, Antwan Campbell, Lori Peterson, Laurie Ray Description: This session will review key features of contracts, as well as considerations and responsibilities of an LEA. Guidance and resources will be provided to effectively negotiate contracts for services for low incidence populations and related services. Objectives- Participants will be able to: 1. List contract features and procedures to consider, include and/or implement when contracting with providers/instructors 2. Confidently approach contract negotiation for varied disciplines: a. request needed information b. apply appropriate resources to ensure market-based costs c. specify contract features to clarify logistics
IEP Goal Writing	Title: IEP Goal Writing: Common Mistakes to Avoid Speakers: Lynn Metcalf, Karen Broome Description: This session will help individuals recognize key factors to consider and common mistakes to avoid during an IEP meeting when reviewing PLAAFPs and Annual Goals. Objectives: Participants will: 1. Identify key components of PLAAFPs 2. Identify key components of Annual Goals.
Residential Schools	Title: Residential School Placement Speakers: Patti Cox, Regi Bolen, Jenny Stroupe, Nancy Woytowich Description: This session will provide information about the appropriate process for placement at the Education Services for the Deaf and Blind Schools.

	Objectives: Participants will:
	1. Describe the referral process
	2. Discuss practices between the LEA and the residential schools to appropriately support
	student transition
	3. Discuss the components that allow for effective communication between LEAs and the residential schools
	4. Examine factors that support the Least Restrictive Environment
Evaluation/ Eligibility (SLD Policy)	Title: Building District Capacity: Implementation of SLD Policies on Evaluation and Eligibility
	Speakers: Lynn Makor, Lynne Loeser
	Description: This session is designed to assist LEAs
	Objectives: Participants will:
	1. Describe the rationale and research underlying an instruction-focused model of
	determining eligibility for Specific Learning Disabilities
	2. Describe general and specific requirements for SLD eligibility in IDEA and NC Policies
	3. Align the general and specific requirements for SLD eligibility with a comprehensive
	balanced assessment system
	4. List necessary district and school level infrastructures to implement a SLD eligibility.
	Title: Medicaid Updates (During General Updates session)
Medicaid Updates	Speakers: Sherry Thomas, Lauren Holahan, Laurie Ray
	Description: This session will provide current information to LEAs on new information
	regarding NC Medicaid and Related Services. This session will also address ongoing efforts for
	advocacy, planned amendments or future plans.
	Objectives: Participants will:
	1. Discuss updates related to the new changes within Medicaid.
	2. Discuss effective practices to prevent double billing.
CECAS Updates	Title: CECAS Helpdesk
	Speakers: CECAS Team
	Description: The CECAS team will be available for assistance with the following:
	COSF, Exit Count, Indicators, Planned Screen, Special Ed Screen and Transition from CECAS
	to ECATS. The sessions will allow EC Directors to attend at their convenience for this
	question and answer period.
	Objectives: Provide technical assistance and support to LEAs.
LEASA Help Desk	Title: LEASA Helpdesk
	Speakers: Regional Consultants
	Description: EC Regional Consultants will be available to provide technical assistance on the
	completion or updating of the LEASA.
	Objectives: Provide technical assistance and support to LEAs.